



# **Missouri's Local Emergency and Environmental Public Health Initiative: A Successful Collaboration**



# A Presentation for the 2006 Environmental Public Health Tracking Conference

by

Jeff Patridge and Debbie Briedwell

Missouri Office of Administration  
Information Technology Services Division





# Background

- Missouri is made up of 114 Counties and 1 self-rule city (St. Louis).
- There are a total of 114 Local Public Health Agencies in the State.



# Background

- Due to the size, geography, and complexities of the state, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services contracts with these LPHAs to provide public health services.
- Missouri's LPHAs are funded mostly through local taxes and fees.





# Aspects of the Initiative

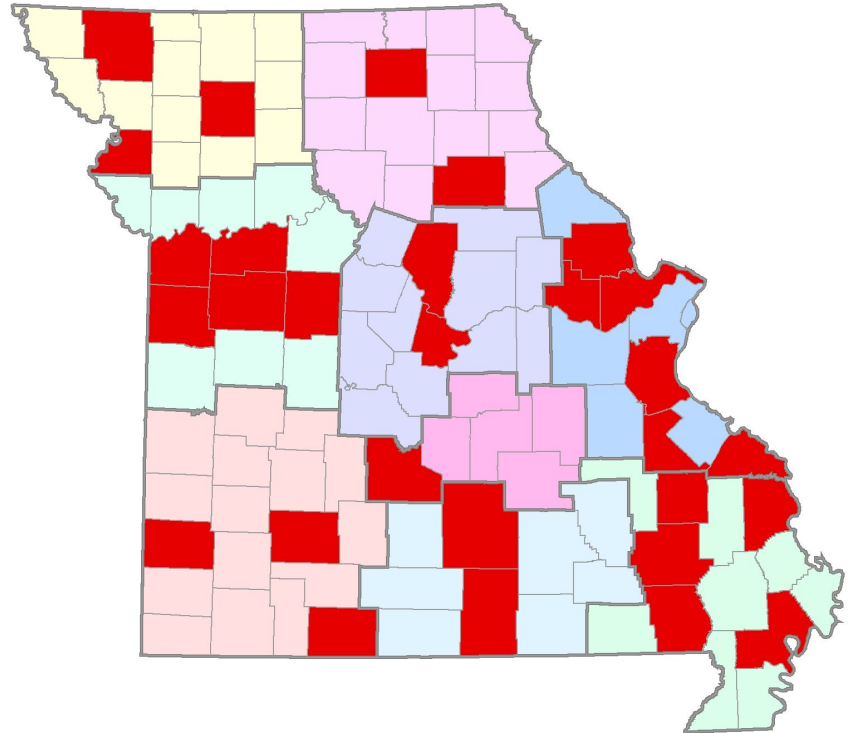
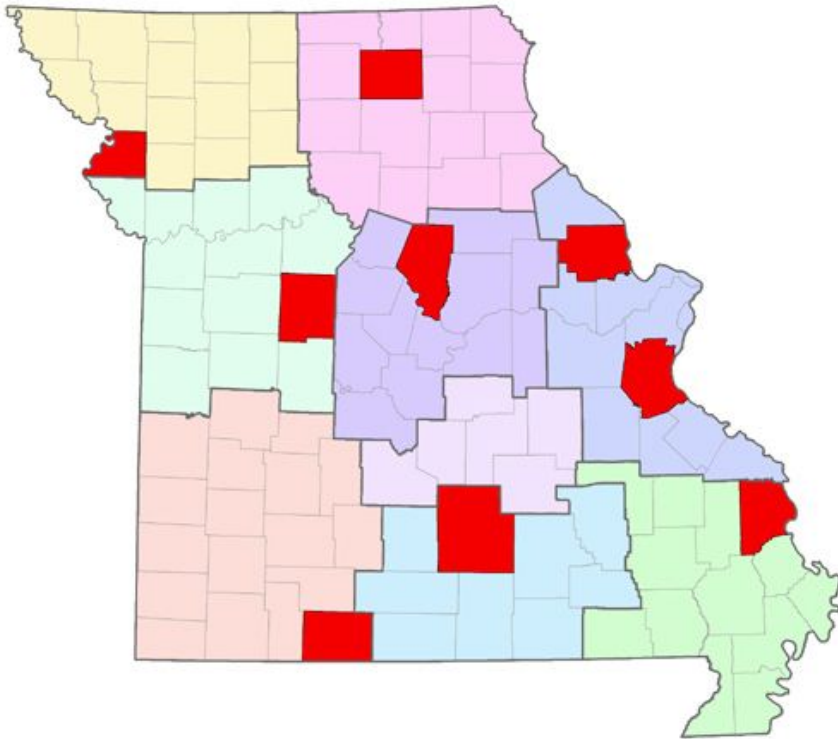
- GIS Software (if needed).
- GPS unit (if needed)
- Training on the use of geospatial software and equipment that is Public Health focused.
- Project assistance
- Technical assistance
- Access to ready made data layers.



# What does Missouri DHSS Obtain?

- Trained boots on the ground
- Closer working relationship with Local Public Health Agency staff.
- Access to more locally-focused data layers and datasets.
- Opportunity to work with data collectors to enact data standards.

# Initiative History



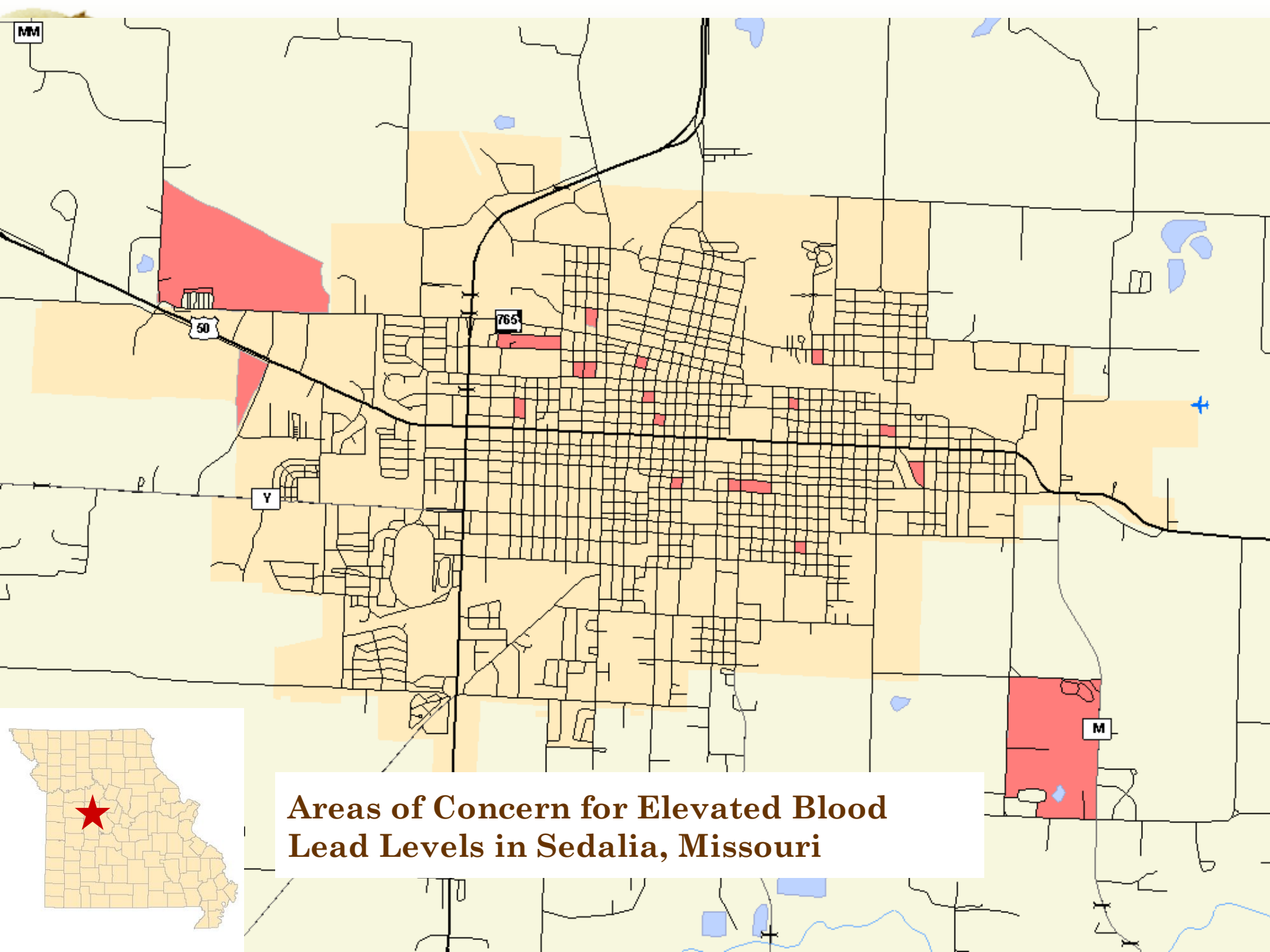
# Environmental Public Health





# Participant Projects





**Areas of Concern for Elevated Blood Lead Levels in Sedalia, Missouri**

# Environmental Sampling;



# St. Francois Agricultural Lime

## Area farmers critical of EPA ruling

By LEROY SEGMAN, Daily Journal Staff Writer

PARK HILLS -- There was heavy criticism directed toward the U.S. Environmental Agency for banning the sale of mine tailings for use as agricultural lime during a public meeting here Thursday night at Central High School concerning the cleanup of the Elvins chat pile and tailings field.

David Moore, a farmer from the Bismarck area, said the EPA action halting the sale of tailings for agricultural use was done without any scientific information to support such a move. He called on the federal agency to come up with a solution to the problem at the Elvins chat pile that would allow the continued use of material for agricultural lime. "Farmers have used tailings for agricultural lime for 75 years," Moore said, noting that until recently there have been no concerns expressed by the government.

The ban imposed in August has made it necessary for local farmers to go to more expensive alternative measures to control the acid content of soil. This is an added expense, Moore said, that small farmers cannot afford. He said they are already struggling and this is just one more additional cost they should not have to bear.

Ben Davis, a livestock consultant with the University of Missouri Extension Center, said a study conducted by the University of Missouri-Rolla shows that use of tailings for agricultural lime does not pose a health hazard. He said the study indicates lead in the tailings is not absorbed by the plants grown in those fields. The study also did not find any environmental hazards created by the use of tailing on farm land. According to Davis, the study suggests "agricultural lime is the best way to get rid of the chat piles." If nothing more, Davis and several in the audience suggested, the EPA should conduct further studies to determine if this would not be the best direction to go.

Bruce Morrison, the EPA's project manager for St. Francois County, suggested he does not have a lot of faith in the findings of the study. He said he does not believe it was done scientifically and did not look at all of the factors that should be considered.

While he is not disputing the finding that plants do not absorb the lead from the tailings when it is used as agricultural lime, Morrison said the EPA's concern is about its uncontrolled use. Local farmers might be aware of the lead and cadmium content of the tailings, but those not in this area might not know about that and thus not be aware of the risks involved.

Daily Journal Online Archives

Local News

Saturday, December 13, 2003







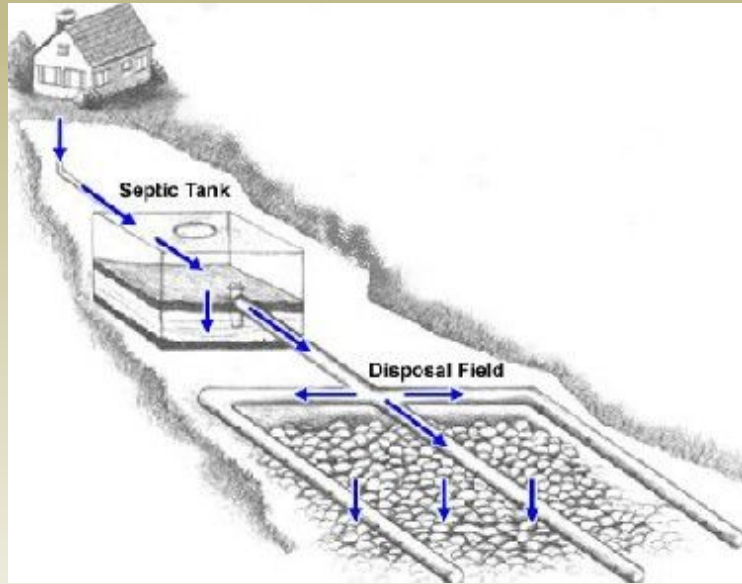
# Washington County





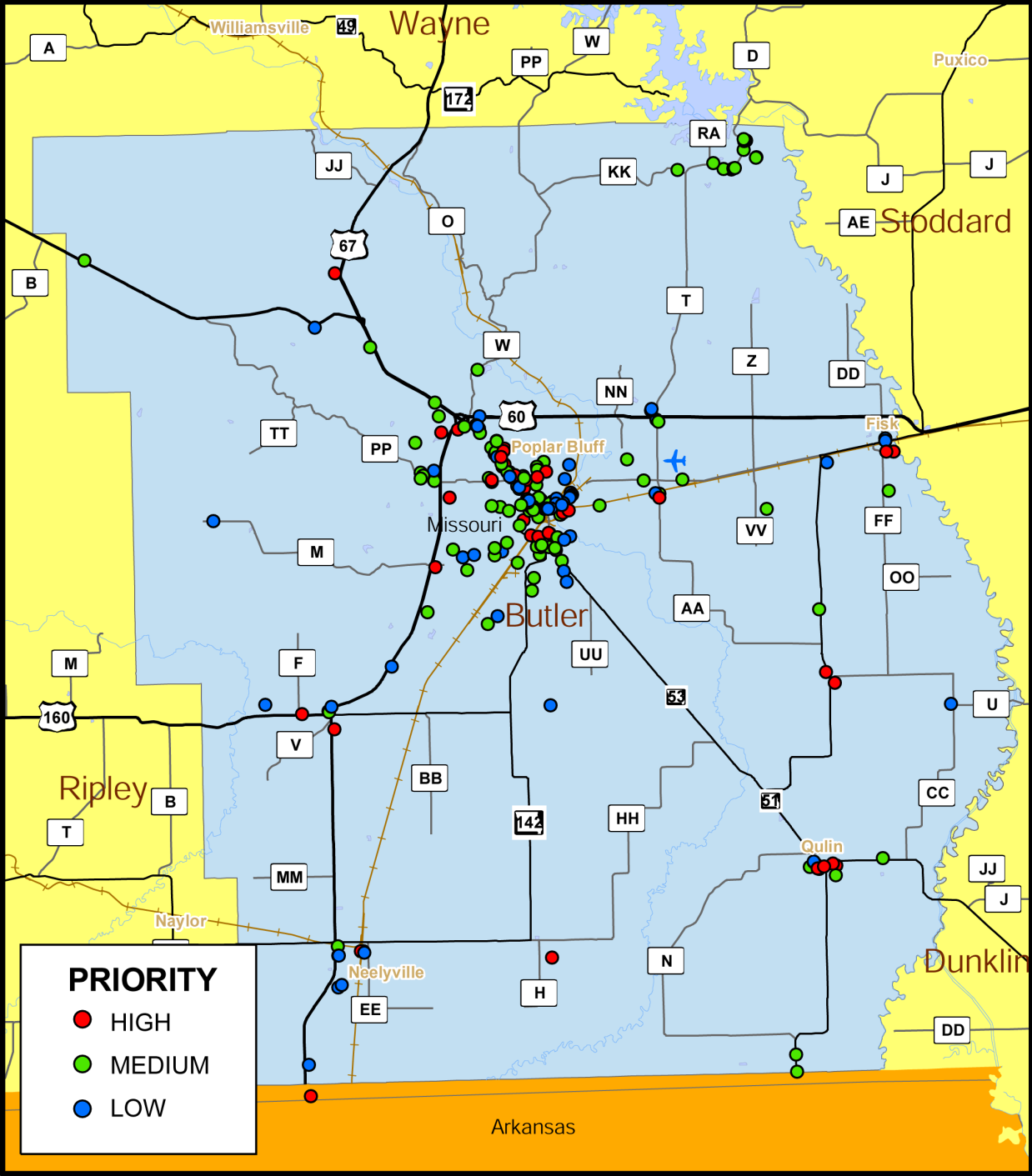


# Inspections







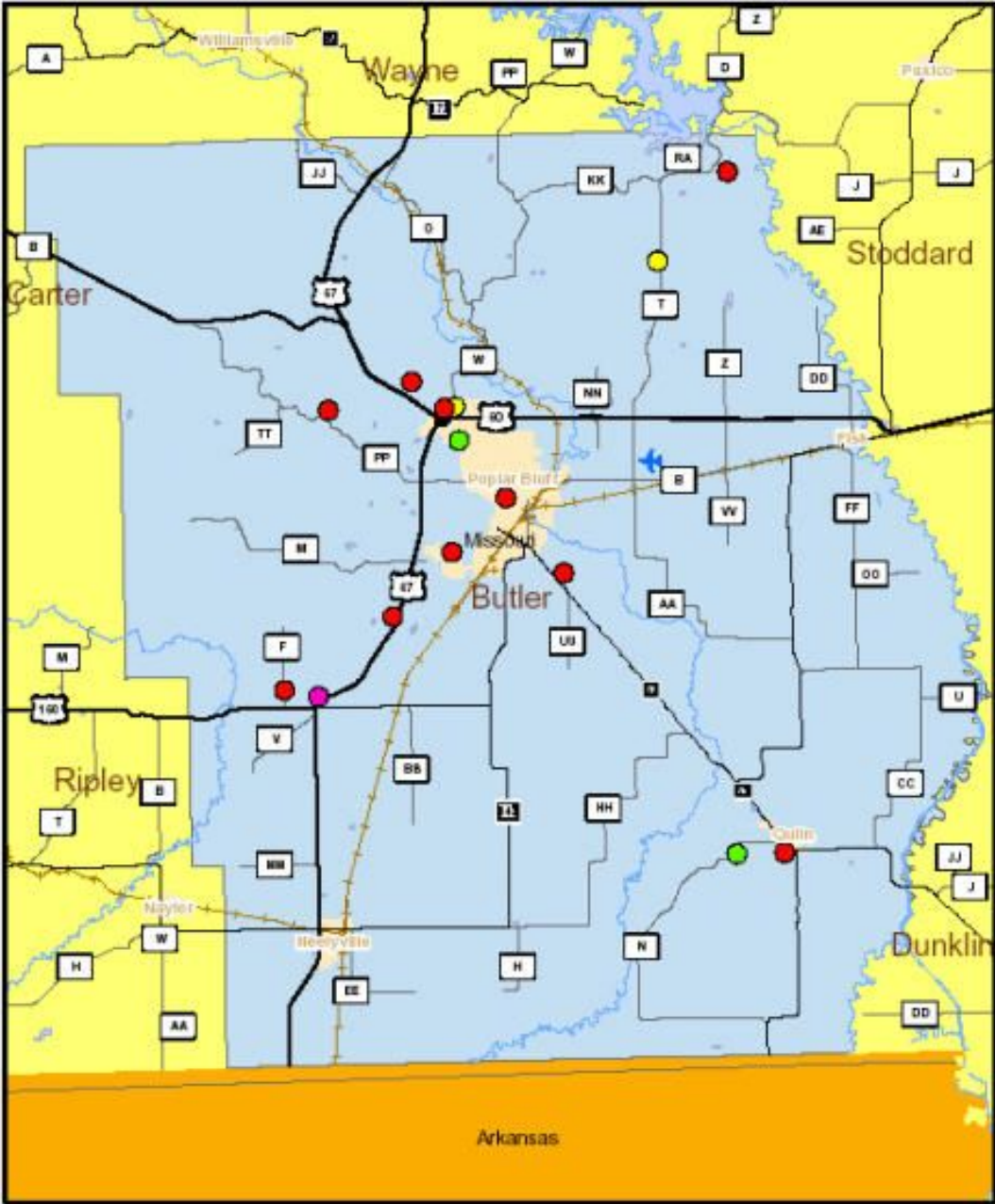
copyright 1998 phil@mit.edu

# Butler County Restaurant Inspections



# Butler County Onsite Sewage Violations

-  Violation Notice Issued
-  Violation in Progress
-  Violation Resolved
-  Unfounded



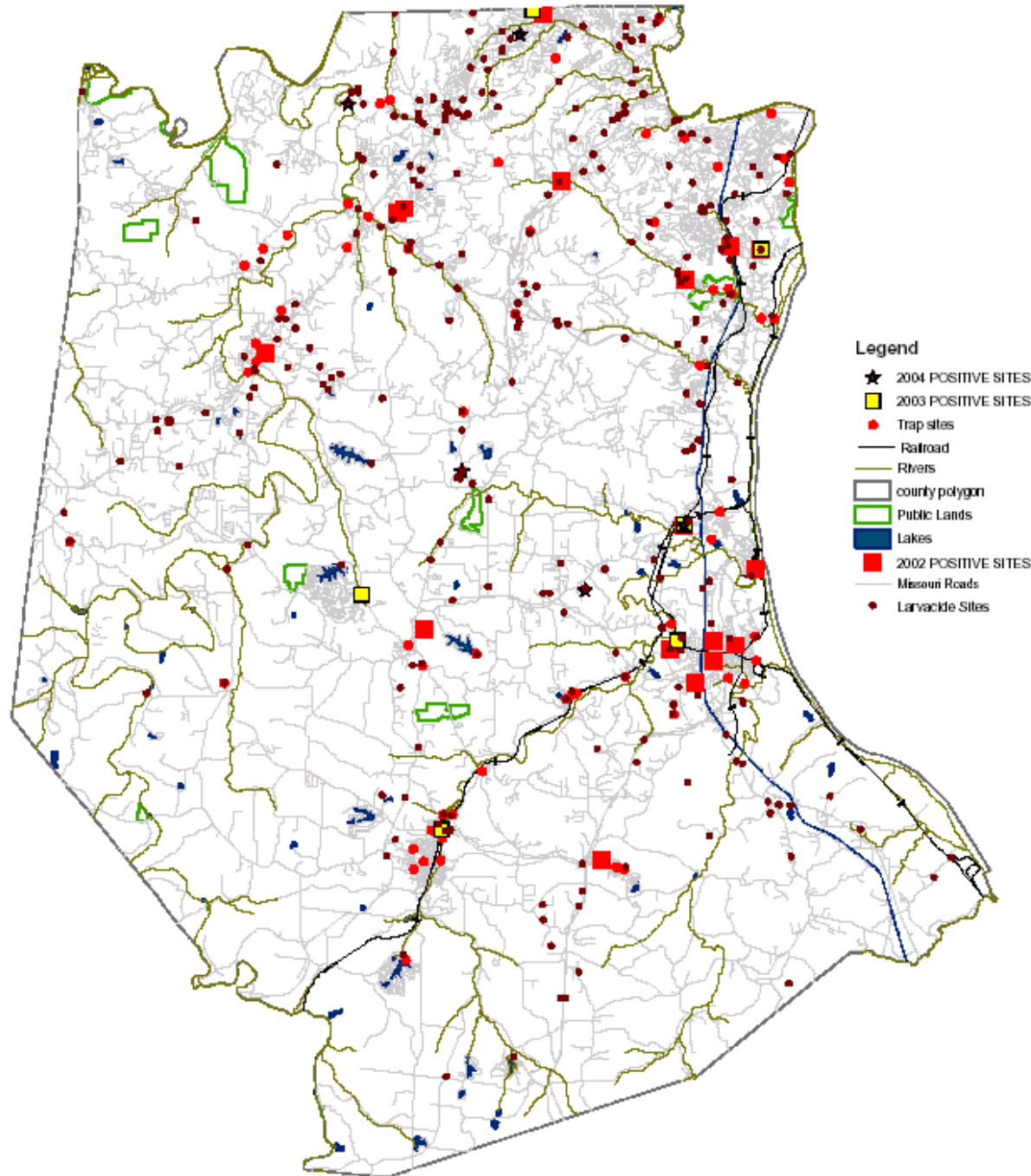




# Missouri State Fair

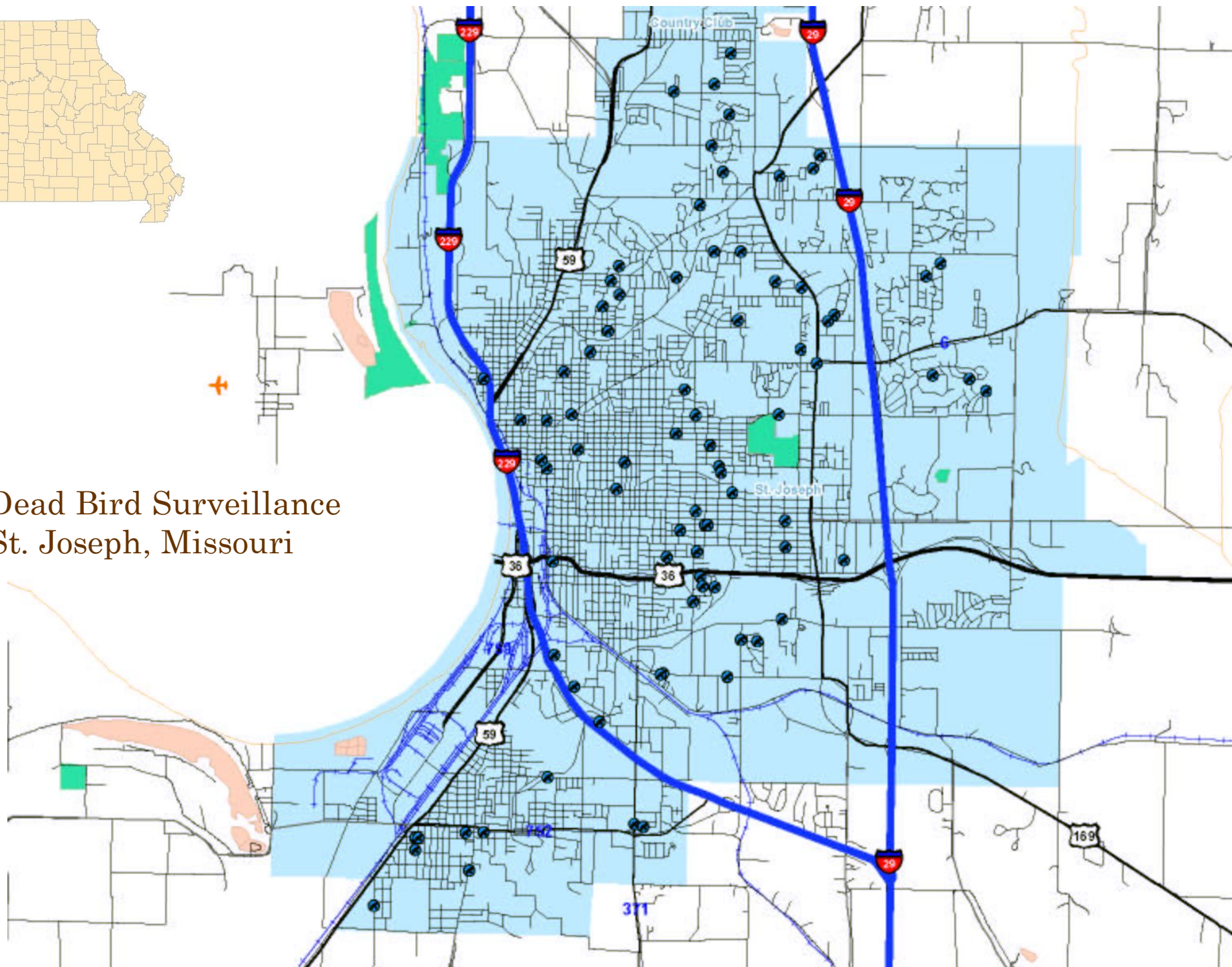


# Mosquito Trap Surveillance Jefferson County





Dead Bird Surveillance  
St. Joseph, Missouri







# Emergency Events





# Caruthersville Tornado





# Planning for the Future





# Future Plans for the Initiative

- **Increase the amount of environmental data available for use**
- **Develop additional technology training classes.**
- **Collaborate with other environmental-related training efforts**



# Future Plans for the Initiative

- Continue building partnerships

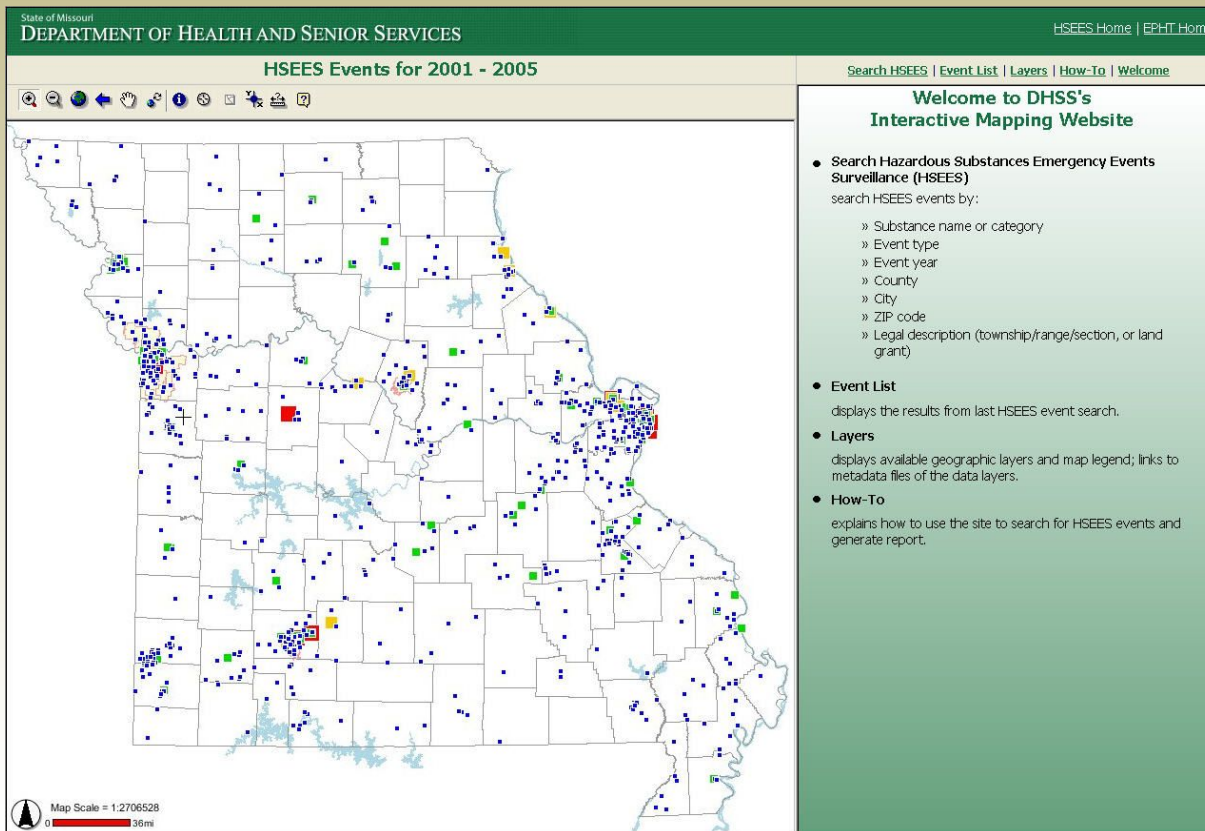


# Future Plans for the Initiative

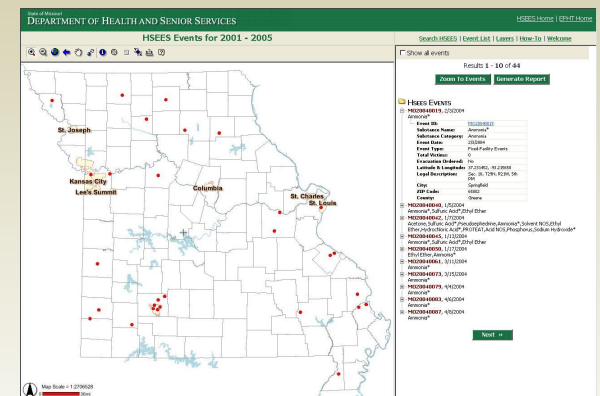
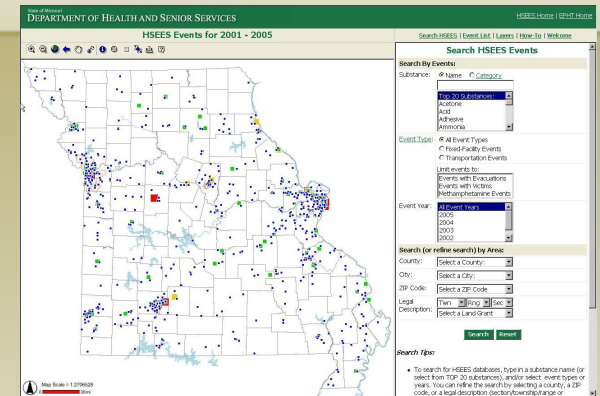
- Continue building partnerships
- Investigate new technology tools and solutions



# Environmental Public Health Mapper



[www.dhss.mo.gov/EPHT](http://www.dhss.mo.gov/EPHT)





# Future Plans for the Initiative

- Continue building partnerships
- Investigate new technology tools and solutions
- Continue to think out-of-the-box



# Community Mapping





# Conclusion



For more information contact:

Debbie Briedwell or Jeff Patridge

[Debbie.Briedwell@dhss.mo.gov](mailto:Debbie.Briedwell@dhss.mo.gov)

[Jeff.Patridge@dhss.mo.gov](mailto:Jeff.Patridge@dhss.mo.gov)

